

dent of Lehigh University, on September 1, 1915, he said in justification of his address:

"Of course you have absolutely the right to send me the letter you have just sent me. . . . But let me ask you if you are sure that you have seen my address. I can hardly believe it. I think that you must have seen an account of what I am alleged to have said or else an account of some article of mine or interview of mine not given in the camp. You say first that you 'heartily agree with and endorse all (I) say in support of the need, the great immediate need, of national preparedness and in condemnation of the folly and worse, of those young and old who favor a supine action/ You then say that you greatly disapprove of my * attack on the Administration/ But, my dear Sir, I never mentioned the Administration or the President, and the only way of construing what I said into an attack is by construing the attack I made upon the nation because it did not 'favor a policy of supine action,' as an attack on the Administration.

"Now the prime reason why we are at present unprepared, is that you, my dear Mr. President, and the men like you, from the highest motives, persists in making general statements in favor of preparedness in the abstract, and then utterly undoing everything you say by repudiation of these principles when applied in the concrete; and even, as now appears, by repudiation of abstract statements if, as in the present instance, the Administration shows sensitive-ness when they are made. In your letter, for instance, you

say, as I have quoted above, that you utterly
condemn the
folly and worse of those who favor a policy of
supine action.
By far the most conspicuous man who has
favored it is the
President himself. The whole weight of his
Message to
Congress last year, when the war had lasted
four months,
was put in the demand that there should be
no preparation.
He actively discouraged Congress doing
anything last
year. He, chiefly, positively but partly without
directness,
discouraged even such activities of General
Wood as were
included in the formation of the American
Legion, and then